

Spot Checking
 Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic
 By Bill Whitman



Happy Easter . . . Egg

But that's just by way of quoting one of the immortals (local) of our time and even though you don't know who the party is — THAT party'll know to whom we refer! Probably the largest contributor to the Post Office Department in the area!

How-some-ever, there is some activity in the Easter section along the beach beat although at the moment we don't know exactly who's gonna be serving what but don't go 'way. We'll probably know before we finish this piece.

Meanwhile, back at the Trojan Horse on Palos Verdes Blvd., in Hollywood Riviera — just got word that you have only a few days left to hear some great sounds as the Chuck Stevens Trio will be closing here on Wednesday, the 13th of this month. Let you know soon who follows in there.

Incidentally, they're going to close the Trojan Horse for Easter while the whole gang'll have a small get-together in the Valley, but come Monday . . . look out! The group will be holding what will probably be their last jam session on that nite. Try and

make it 'cause it'll be a gas!

How's that saying go — "a family that works together — makes money together" or something like that. And that is the case at Maddalone's Restaurant over there on Avenue I in the Hollywood Riviera section.

In case you didn't know and have been wondering who the pretty, pert and provocative, not to mention blonde dolly is that greets and seats you at "Frantic Freddy's" spot — it's Betty Maddalone . . . the hostess with the mostest, to borrow a wheeze from away back. A very definite compliment to Maddalone's Restaurant.

But this isn't all! Who d'ya think is the day cook here? It's number one son Jeff, serving 'em for you and yours in the master kitchen department.

Now to follow on through, there's still another "fine Italian boy that belong to Betty and Fred in the name of Dino who is breaking into the restaurant business the hard way. He's doing the bus-boy bit here. No so't touch, this Fred Maddalone. Makes 'em learn all the way up — and that's the way to learn this business, you better believe! Why, even young Carol assists from time to time at this fine dine-outery with such things as menus and answering the 'phones. That leaves only one of the family but, after all, Chris's only 7 much from such a little tyke, but give her a couple more years and she'll be in there swingin', too.

By the way, as is the cus-

tom at Maddalone's regarding all major holidays — they'll be closed on Easter so the employees may have the day with their families.

It's been long the practice at The Red Onion to stay closed on Mondays but as of a couple of weeks ago, Bard Earle has changed all that and is now open to the public. Yes, and that giant cocktail hour prevails, just as before, as does the excellent Sonora style Mexican cooking.

Vicente and Antonio make with the music up there at 27736 Silver Spur Road each Thursday, Friday and Saturday nite under the "easy" to pronounce name of The Tepeyac Duo.

That was quite a birthday party they "flung" for "Doreen" down at Filippone's Restaurant on Calle Mayor last week. Sam came on with the o'douvers, the cake, the whole shot but the crowning scene must have been when someone waltzed in with a couple of dozen roses . . . shore stemmed and looked as though they'd been through Viet Nam . . . they were that wilted. Oh well, anything for a laugh at Filippone's.

Many people have asked if there's entertainment there and you better believe there is — any afternoon or early evening you'll get more fast action than you can handle. Of course, there are times that the action is unprintable and VERY often un-repeatable, but it's entertaining, none-the-less.

Then "what can you do for

an encore" always comes up. Well, there's always "smoke watching," which doesn't nearly compare to girl watching but it sure beats h-l out of bird watching! Highly entertaining spot, Filippone's, but the Italian cuisine — N.Y. steaks, prime rib and lobster available here are much more nourishing. You'll find the prices at Filippone's nourishes the pocketbook, too. Try it! (Don't know what Sam's plans are for Easter Maybe an Easter egg roll on the parking lot?)

As is always the case at Louie's Garden in Lomita — can't think of any possible reason for Louie to change this policy on Easter. With a seven-day-a-week operation down there at 1841 W. Pacific Coast Highway, it stands to reason that they'll all be on hand to serve up the Easter specials just the way you like 'em . . . hot and friendly! Wonder if there's such a thing as "Ham Foo Yung" . . . or "Lamb 'n' Mint Chow Mein"? Maybe even "Sub Gum Chop Hot Cross Buns, ala Cantonese." All kinds of possibilities.

Irrespective of what you order, you'll get the best the house has to offer, and believe it, the cuisine is strictly quality — as is the service. And remember, bring the kids! They love 'em!

JUST HAPPENED TO THINK: Y'spose with all this defecting to "the other side" stuff among these PFCs . . . could it be called "private defective"? (Now, see what happens when we think!)

And while we're on the subject of good music — you have a few days in order to catch another great group at The Hunting Horn at the

TREAT HER TO A

Delicious EASTER Dinner

corner of Silver Spur Road and Hawthorne in Peninsula Center. It's the Matt Dennis Trio.

The boy's got a flock of credits to his name in the music writing dodge, you know. As for instance, "Angel Eyes," "Everything Happens To Me," "The Night We Called It A Day" and "Let's Get Away From It All," just to mention a few. So with this kind of talent in the composing field, you've got to KNOW you've got quality entertainment waiting (or you at the Hunting Horn. Incidentally, Matt's lovely wife, "Ginny" does the vocals with the group so if NO other reason you should catch this bit!

And now to continue along this Easter route — there's a very special deal for the "lunch bunch" come Sunday morning.

At 10 ayem the Easter Sunday Brunch will begin and will carry on 'til '230 in the afternoon at the Plush Horse Restaurant on Pacific Coast Highway in Hollywood Riviera and it'll run just two and a quarter. And if you want to bring the kids along it's an extra dollar, sixty-five per each. Manager Horst Osterkamp didn't mention anything about an Easter egg roll but it's probably just as well . . . those parking lots get pretty busy on Sunday and especially on Easter Sunday. Also, the concrete gets a bit rough on the nose.

Then there's to be a special Easter dinner that'll go off at three p.m. and starts at \$3.95. Children's portions, of course. Now wait a minute . . . that's not supposed to mean that for the three ninety-five you get CHILDREN'S portions . . . it merely means there are children's portions available, also) get it?

More on the Easter thing — Tom Waahburn says that due to the fact most people that

come into his attractive ocean view Fisherman's Haven request seafood, he'd just go along with the trend and let his regular menu prevail. And let's face it — seafood is good ANY time of the year.

There's fresh steamed clams, steaks, (ah yes, meat, too!) lobster tails and oysters on the half-shell. Now can you ask for a better menu in a seafood spot? The price is right, too!

Sam Failla's got a double thing going for you at his San Franciscan Restaurant and Cocktail Lounge. It's a combination "Second Anniversary and Easter Dinner" for this week.

Like tomorrow's observance of two full years at Sepulveda and Crenshaw featuring all the goodies that only Sam Failla can put out — such as a buffet dinner served from seven 'til nine p.m. Of course, the celebration will go on 'til

midnite with much merriment and entertainment with those fun-loving and talented cats The Leewards holding forth on the stand.

Then on Sunday there'll be a special Easter dinner served from 3 in the afternoon 'til 8 in the evening featuring prime rib and turkey at \$2.75 with the welcome mat rolled out for the kiddies. Items on the regular menu are available, too, of course. Should be quite a week for all ye San Franciscan buffs.

Say, do you know the current attraction down there on the tip of The Peninsula at the Galley West Restaurant? Well, he's Charlie Amato and the Trio — one of the wildest pianomen you've ever heard. Comes on big down there every nite.

Featured with Charlie, who is playing his second time around at the Galley West, is that bass-vocal man Dick Stricklin. (No, no, no, no!

That doesn't mean he sings dirty songs! It means he's the bass man with the outfit in addition to doing vocals! Who-o-o-o-sh, what you must go through!! Rounding out the trio is Buz Overbeck who swings in no mean way with the drums and vibes. 'Really should catch this group. They're fine!

Coming down off the hill for a moment, the House of Prime on Western in San Pedro also has an Easter special set up for you. It's a choice of N.Y. steak, turkey, baked ham or prime rib for \$2.75. There's soup and salad included with this offering, y'know. Got it straight from the horses' mouths . . . Both "Rip" Van Winkle and co-operator Danny Berni tipped us off. So like . . . go, man, go! Go, girl, too!

And that's it. Have a festive Easter and "ah-eesunt passya" to you, too!

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TIPSY . . . Not the bartender shown above — merely the bottle of Litre that "Rip" Van Winkle is pouring for Lou Valente at the House of Prime in San Pedro.

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